

JHB

T. BENTON PEERY
LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
GETTYSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

January 9th. 1924.

Dear Harold--

A short note from Mrs. Bills this morning stated that you had been operated on for appendicitis. I sincerely hope you under-went the operation nicely and will soon be on the road to recovery. This season of the year seems to be rather disastrous with you lately. As I remember you were taken ill last year at this time.

The news from Windsor reaches me occasionally. Not much is going on in the town now except the basket-ball season. Joe wrote me of excellent prospects for this year. They should exceed the record made last year, let's hope so! Mrs Bills thinks Joe and Mildred are happy and so do my other friends. I am sure everyone is most kind to Mildred.

This past Christmas I spent an enjoyable but strenuous vacation. Leaving Gettysburg I went down South to Hickory N.C. via Baltimore and Washington. My stay there was only for seven days, after which I went to the International Students Volunteer Convention at Indianapolis Indiana. Here I went to conferences for five days-- the most fruitful five days I have ever spent. You would know the nature of this so I will not enumerate.

The life in the Seminary is broad and cultural. My best friend is Elsie Singmaster, the novelist. She is a widow and the daughter of our President Dr. Singmaster. Have you read any of her books or stories? She is nationally known. Have found some musical friends in town, also among the student body. We have a Seminary Male Quartette, of which I am a member, which has sung in several concerts. I like my studies and find they are not as narrow and bigoted as many would like to find them. ^{fault with}

Perhaps you would be interested in the changes in our family. Father is moving to a splendid field and church in Wooster Ohio. This is a splendid town, the home of Wooster college. He goes with an increase of a thousand dollars in salary, and this is splendid for him. Rob Roy, whom you know, is at Oberlin Conservatory and is going strong. I remember our conversation concerning this school. Bob is the concertmeister of the Symphony orchestra, has written an official song for them and has received the plaudits of his teachers. He won an international composition prize in the recent Etude contest; Cadman winning first. The elder Harold is no longer at Maywood; but lives in Oak Park and is in the laboratories of the Western Electric. He went with them temporarily last summer during vacation and now has charge of one of the testing departments. My next younger brother from Bob, who is Paul, has received an appointment to West Point. He is a sophomore in college at seventeen.

(over)

Just recently I had to turn down a chance to lead the music in a missionary convention at Atlantic City. This is the close of the first semester here at the Seminary and I could not spare the time. This opportunity came to me thru Lutheran circles - people who were attending the summer school where I had the music last summer.

While at home this vacation I had a chance to read the printed letter of your Uncle Peake in Japan. He always sends us a copy. This was a very interesting letter because it told of his experiences during and after the earthquake. Suppose you have already seen it.

Please carry on my very best regards to your parents, sisters, brothers and Mr. Williams. Our Y secretary at the college, Johnson from Uni. of Minnesota knows your brother who is in Y work. Wishing you a speedy recovery, and with all good wishes for success,

I am,

Sincerely,

Ben.